



Perth Amboy - Caucus 1/9/12

Property Tax Reduction Still Being Questioned



JoAnn Jimenez



Councilman
Bill Petrick

PERTH AMBOY - With questions about the Spa Springs area having their property taxes reduced Tax Assessor JoAnn Jimenez came before the Council to answer any concerns they have of assessment options. She calmly explained in regards to reevaluations. "A map divides the City's neighborhoods into 30 sections. This would include make-up of neighborhoods, what kind of zoning is allowed and lot sizes. Ward and Districts are not a factor into readjustments of land values."

Councilman Bill Petrick asked Ms. Jimenez, "Exactly what percentage of the town has not been reassessed?" Into which she responded, "Two-thirds have to be done which is about 1700 properties."

Councilman Fernando Gonzalez questioned if the Middlesex County Tax Board needs to be involved in regards to Perth Amboy's property values. "I'm sure Ms. Jimenez knows more about what our property values are than the County Tax Board."

(Continued on Page 2)

Outcry Over Parking Fees Council Meeting 1/11/12

PERTH AMBOY - The days of getting an hour to park for twenty-five cents have been changed in certain sections of town depending on where you are you may get only forty to thirty minutes of parking for that amount of money. According to B.A. Greg Fehrenbach this revenue is needed to improve the Jefferson Street Parking Deck. After studying seventeen to eighteen other City rates of other towns we were still lower (as far as our parking meter rates) than those other towns. Although some of the lights have been replaced in that lot this did not satisfy residents Ricky

Aviles and Alan Silber. Their concerns, especially with Mr. Aviles when in regards to broken elevators and safe stairwells and, "You should improve the air before you increase the rates." Mr. Silber said, "The results you are seeking raising the rates may be the opposite of you want."

Resident Gregory Pabon spoke in favor of the fee increase. "The only way you can make improvements is to have the money come in first. The tolls were raised on the bridges and the parkway and I have to pay them but they are needed to fix the roads."

(Continued on Page 2)

South Amboy Problems with Street Signs and Lights Discussed at South Amboy Council Meeting

SOUTH AMBOY - South Amboy's council held their first public meeting on January 18th, and a good number of residents came down to discuss the problems with the town's street signs and lights.

Tom Kross brought up the visual streetlights around town, including two roads on Main Street up Washington road and Raritan Street. Kross explained that he called Jersey Central, the town's lighting supplier, but was not given any answers.

"I called Jersey Central to complain about the lights being out, but they told me they have 10 million customers and they can't check every light," Kross said. "Residents shouldn't be responsible to get this fixed, and if we are paying for a service there should be something done about it."

Business Administrator Camille Tooker went over the process of checking the streetlights, including a survey done by the police department. She said that despite the large number of lights being out, the city is working on getting them fixed.

"The police department and I completed a survey of every light that wasn't working and set it to Jersey Central via email. The total was about 57 or so lights that were either not working or malfunctioning," Tooker said. "We also met with a representative in the area and voiced our concerns. We are working to get it done quickly."

However, residents like Vince Mackiel of Augusta Street believe the town council should be doing more to get companies like Jersey Central up to speed. Mackiel believes that the town should be talking to Assemblymen Craig Coughlin and other government officials to get certain projects moving.

"Why aren't we talking to our Assemblyman and doing



SOUTH AMBOY - Vince Mackiel speaks in front of the South Amboy City Council

Photo by Joseph L. Kuchie

something about these projects or companies not getting things done," Mackiel said. "We should be asking questions like 'what can we do to get Jersey Central up to speed.' We need to get things done."

Mayor Henry tried to explain to Mackiel that things are happening as fast as they can, and that most projects are on schedule to be completed. Henry used the roof on City Hall as an example.

"We are doing things to help the city, it just depends on the weather conditions and what the companies we deal with can do," Henry said. "January and February aren't the best months to do a roof, but things are moving along as best they can."

Henry also addressed a recent article in the Guardian questioning a new nursing facility being built in town. He confirmed that the town has begun constructing a new nursing building, and a press release should be coming in a few days.

"We have already started working on the property, and our goal of eliminating the eyesore that is currently at the location has begun," Henry said in his opening comments. "There will be a new Venetian nursing care building put in the area and we look forward to this and other future suc-

cesses in town."

Other street concerns came from Bob Pavlik of Augusta Street, who told the council of a mysterious "no left turn" sign that was placed between Augusta and Feltus Street. He explained that he has lived there since 1965, and the sign randomly popped up as early as a month ago.

"There has never been a sign faced that way, so I'd like to know what ordinance was passed to allow that sign to be posted," Pavlik said. "Can I make a left there or should I go up a street to Thompson and make a more hazardous turn?"

Pavlik then supplied the council with a photo of the sign, and both Council President Joseph Connors and Business Administrator Tooker said they would look into it. Connors urged Pavlik to find an alternate route until it was resolved, which would take no longer than 2-3 days.

"If no ordinance was passed for this sign, then it has to be taken down," Connors said. "It should take 2-3 days to be resolved, but if there is no ordinance then we will have public works go down there and remove it as soon as possible."

The next council meeting will be held on February 1st at 7:00 PM.

By Joseph L. Kuchie

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Superintendent Authors Book

PERTH AMBOY - Janine Walker Caffrey, Ed.D., the Superintendent of Schools in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, is the author of a unique book, Nurturing Brilliance: Discovering and Developing Your Child's Gifts (Great Potential Press, www.giftedbooks.com) that was recently released.

During her career, she has taught special education at several different schools in all kinds of communities. She then a non-public school in Florida called Renaissance Academy, which focuses on the arts. While at Renaissance Academy, she wrote a parenting book called Drive: 9 Ways to Motivate Your Kids to Achieve. She later worked for the New York City Department of Education, improving parent involvement and student achievement.

Dr. Caffrey has delighted in the experience of raising and educating brilliant children—

not just students, but her own children as well. She loves writing, making videos, and speaking about parenting and education so that others can find joy and success in raising their children.

In her second book, Nurturing Brilliance: Discovering and Developing Your Child's Gifts, Dr. Caffrey recognizes that gifted children are diamonds in the rough—small gems that, when polished appropriately, can sparkle and shine with luminous splendor. Without the proper nurturance, however, their sparks of brilliance may never ignite. Dr. Caffrey discusses what parents can do to help nurture the talents of children who demonstrate evidence of giftedness.

She also includes concrete recommendations for getting appropriate educational adjustments from your child's school, as well as how to help your child even out communi-

cation and motor skills, deal with friendship and parent-child relationship issues, and learn the best way to become financially responsible and the smartest method of choosing the right college. Her book breaks down the differences in the categories of "gifted" and examines each one so parents are sure to find helpful information that is suited to their child, no matter his or her area of exceptionality.

Susan M. Heim (Co-Author, Boosting Your Baby's Brain Power, and Former Senior Editor, Chicken Soup for the Soul Series) says, "Uncovering and nurturing our children's brilliance is an essential parenting skill. This comprehensive guide is a critical tool in helping our children to realize their full potential!"

news release

Tax
Assessments
(Continued from Page 1)

"We have to comply with the Middlesex County Tax Board," responded Ms. Jimenez. "As far as the assessments it would take a couple of years to do the whole town."

Bill Petrick and Kenneth Gonzalez agreed that readjustments are the best and least expensive way to go.

The Amboy Guardian went into the City of Perth Amboy Website where we obtained the following information regarding the Tax Assessor's responsibilities. For more detailed information we suggest you do the same.

"The Assessor's office has no control over the tax rates.

The tax rate on your bill is determined by the county Board of Taxation based on budgets submitted by the municipality, county and schools, and the total assessed value of the municipality. With changes in budgets, tax rates and assessments all affecting the tax you pay, the key to your Real Estate Tax is the bottom line of any budget: "Amount to be raised by Taxation." Presently, state school aid, part of which comes from the state Income Tax, is based on the equalized valuation of assessments."

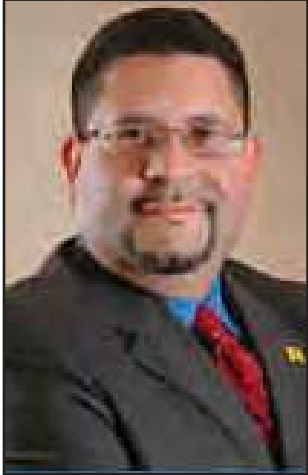
It's also important to know that the Tax Assessor's Office works with the Calendar as required by the State Division of Taxation. Important dates, especially for property owners are the 1st of the following months, February, April, October, November and December



Councilman
Fernando Gonzalez

They also list the phone numbers of the Middlesex County Tax Board which is 732-745-3350, Middlesex County Clerk's Office 732-745-3005, and the New Jersey Division of Taxation/ Property Administration 609-292-8822.

Parking Fees
(Continued from Page 1)



Councilman
Kenneth Gonzalez

Councilman Kenneth Gonzalez made it a point to say, "The Jefferson Street Parking Deck had brighter lighting and at a cheaper cost to the City and it is now lit up like a Christmas Tree."

Spay & Neuter Program Needed
More Than Animal Control Officers
- Council Meeting 1/11/12

PERTH AMBOY - "Our town is failing, especially when it comes to animal control." These words were spoken by resident Virginia Morales who is a active volunteer with the Happy Homes Shelter. She stated that she recently went to the Animal Shelter and was surprised by the employee who appeared disheveled. "We need bilingual Animal Control Workers, especially those who speak Spanish. I have seen the decapitated heads of animals in the water down by

the Waterfront and you have families and children walking by there. "Maybe approaching the Board of Education about taking care of animals," was suggested by Councilman Bill Petrick since Ms. Morales has teaching credentials.

" Perhaps an educational piece on Channel 34 can highlight this problem and maybe Chief Benjamin Ruiz can give the Council a report on the Animal Shelter," suggested Councilman Kenneth Gonzalez.

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Open House

PERTH AMBOY - Assumption Catholic School will have an Open House on Sunday's, February 5 & 26 from Noon to 4 p.m. as part of Catholic School's Week Celebrations. Light refreshments, school tours, and a Power Point presentation will be available for prospective parents and students. For more info about the school, registration, or any events call 732-826-8721 or email acschooloffice@gmail.com.

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SOUTH AMBOY - There will be a Comedy Night on Saturday, January 28 at Memorial Hall of Sacred Heart Church, Main Street, South Amboy from 7 p.m. to 11p.m. \$40 per person. Includes: Buffet, Beverages (Soda- Beer-Wine) and Entertainment (2 Comedians plus DJ) For tickets and info Call (908) 296-4254. Seating is Limited.



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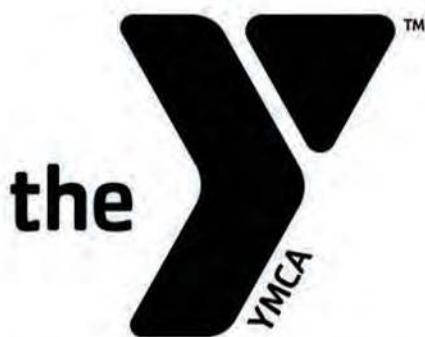
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LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITORIAL

Owners Should Be Responsble & Bursting at the Seams

I love a good meal, but even that could turn into a bad experience if you overindulge. Opening up a new business in town is a good thing as long as it is providing something that is needed in the community. Not only in the Amboy’s but other communities I have seen stores opening and closing in as little as six months. Not all these closings are due to the occupants fault but sometimes the owners of the buildings have to take responsibility.

One of my favorite restaurants closed down a little over a year ago. The tragedy of their closing is that this new restaurant was bringing in people from South River, Metuchen, Edison and other nearby towns to try their cuisine. This is what Perth Amboy sorely needed. New businesses to bring money in from residents other than those who resided in the City.

The story behind this restaurant closing is that they were paying the utility bills for the occupants of businesses that were on each side of them. They were not aware of this until they got shutoff notices from the two utility companies. The meters that were located in the basement were not properly installed for each individual occupant. On top of that, they had to close their restaurant for almost two weeks due to flooding that was not their fault. Instead of the owner of the building sympathizing and apologizing for their mistake, they still insisted that the rent be paid.

When the owners of the building went to correct the meter problem in the basement they made matters worse. I will not go into the details out of respect for the owners of the out of business restaurant but I would personally not want anyone to go through what they did. They did eventually reopen for about two weeks and then closed for

good. I ran into them about three months after they closed and wondered what had happened. They said that even if they took the landlord to court and won the case they were too much in the hole to reopen and just were so disheartened about the experience. I would say to the City Officials if this had happened to your business would you just sit idly by?

This was not the only business I talked to that had the same problem specifically with the meters, but fortunately for them they did not have the extraordinary circumstances that the closed restaurant experienced.

On another note as I have mentioned in a past editorial, the City Streets must be dealt with before more construction takes place in the City of Perth Amboy. I suggest that once a month the City Officials should take a walking tour of Perth Amboy. Let’s start with Watson Ave. which is only two blocks. Look at all of the sunken soft spots and around where the sewer openings on the curbs are deteriorating that if you were to make a sharp turn close to those holes - you might lose a tire.

If the streets could talk as you are walking on them, they would be saying, “We are on life support! We are old, in need of repair and cannot take much more.” The Census was that was taken in 2010 said that Perth Amboy’s population was just over 50,000 which would give us more assistance from the government. It think it’s more important that we do not overload our City so much that no matter how much government assistance we are getting it’s getting so crowded it’s like sardines in a can. Our streets are stressed out, too and it comes to the point when they feel so inundated with traffic (vehicular and pedestrian) that they will cry out “I need to breathe!”

C.M.

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

Waterfront Property

Because not one syllable was mentioned about creative, mixed-use waterfront devel-

Sayreville Mayor Apology

As Mayor of Sayreville, it is with profound regret that I find I must apologize to the residents and employees of Sayreville for the actions and behavior of the majority of my colleagues on the Borough Council at the meeting of January 9th. It showed a lack of respect for the office they hold and the citizens who elected them, and was an embarrassment to the borough.

Without any discussion with me or Councilman Nick Perrette, five council members made a decision to fire Business Administrator Jeff Bertrand. Just minutes before the meeting, Council President Lisa Eicher and Councilman Bill Henry went down the hall to his office, informed him they were terminating him, and told him he should not even attend the meeting. To his credit, he attended anyway. After eight years of hard work, dedication, and efficiency, Mr. Bertrand was never given notice that they considered his job performance in any way lacking. He was offered no discussion of any issues they may have had with him, no warning that some sort of improvement was required, nor what might be done to accom-

opment in the recent State of the City Address (meaning mid to high-end communities of residential homes, retail, office, commercial, public space, green space, recreation-

plish this. Their Democrat-selected attorney brought with him the completed paperwork, which he had drawn up even prior to the meeting, prior to any discussion, and prior to the council motion, seconding, and voting on the matter at that night’s meeting. Having made the decision privately, secretly, and knowing that they would have their five votes to one, in their arrogance council members Mary Novak, Bill Henry, Frank Bella, Lisa Eicher, and her brother Dan Buchanan felt no need to follow proper norms and procedures and chose a means of their own. I apologize to you for the behavior and lack of respect displayed by them.

The dismissal of Mr. Bertrand, and the manner in which it was handled, came as a shock to me, to Councilman Perrette, and to the residents in attendance. There was a public outcry, and when residents tried to question the Council majority, they were told only that this group of five wanted to take Sayreville “ in another direction,” a prospect I find distinctly alarming.

It had been my deepest hope that the Council would be willing to put the best interests of Sayreville and its citizens at the forefront and work cooperatively toward that end, without motives of power or partisan politics. It has already

al, entertainment and transportation), is the public to assume the City is not pursuing waterfront revitalization anymore?

Tracy Jordan, The Landings

been made painfully apparent that this is not to be the case. The actions of the council were not only a slap in the face to the wishes and opinions of the voters who put them there, but what kind of message does it send to the rest of our borough employees? Obviously, it was intended to send a message to the residents and borough employees about who is in charge. I have never witnessed, nor do I approve of nor condone this “management style.” Those responsible have it wrong. The residents are in charge, and we are in their service. They elected us and we are here to carry out their wishes, to conduct ourselves with dignity and character, and to run and plan for the future of Sayreville in the most efficient and inexpensive way possible.

Once again, on behalf of five of my colleagues on the council, I apologize to the residents and employees of the Borough of Sayreville for what transpired that night. In order that you keep well-informed of the workings and decisions of the borough and your council representatives, I invite you to attend as many future council meetings as you are able, ask the questions when you have them, and make your wishes and opinions known.

Mayor Kennedy O’Brien
Sayreville, New Jersey



Maple St. & Madison Ave. - Photos by Carolyn Maxwell



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Kidz Wii Club

SOUTH AMBOY - The Kidz Wii Club will meet every Friday at 3:30 p.m. at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza,South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060.

Volunteer Firefighters Needed

PERTH AMBOY - The Perth Amboy Fire Department: Volunteer Division needs members. Accepting men and women ages 18 years or older. Volunteers must be a Perth Amboy resident. For more information please contact 732-442-3430.

Tea Room Open

PERTH AMBOY — The Tea Room at the historic Proprietary House, Kearny Avenue, is open on Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m.

For \$7 per person, visitors can enjoy assorted teas and delicious homemade desserts served by hostesses Helen, Dorothy and Kathy. Take a tour of the only remaining Royal Governor’s Mansion in the U.S.

The Proprietary House, which was built between 1762 and 1764, and is on the State and National Registers of Historic Places, is owned by the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Parks & Forestry.

For more information or group reservations, call (732) 826-5527.

Kearny Cottage Open

PERTH AMBOY - Come visit the historic home of Commodore Lawrence Kearny. The Cottage is located at 63 Catalpa Ave, Perth Amboy, and is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. and the last Sunday of the month from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. The Kearny Cottage needs your help. Anyone interested in joining the Kearny Cottage Historical Society please contact 732-675-8826.

ADS
SELL!
CALL CAROLYN
732-896-4446

Community Calendar

Perth Amboy

TODAY. Jan. 25 Municipal Court, 1:30 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave.
City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.
THURS. Jan. 26 Municipal Court, 6 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave.
Historic Preservation Commission 7 p.m.
City Hall, High St.
TUES. Jan. 31 Municipal Court, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave.
WED. Feb 1 Municipal Court, 1:30 p.m., Court House, New Brunswick Ave.

South Amboy

MON. Jan 30 City Council, Business, 6 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway
WED. Feb 1 City Council, Regular, 7 p.m.
City Hall, N. Broadway

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Amboy Guardian Weekly
For News
You Won’t Find
Anywhere Else

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www.AmboyGuardianBlogspot.com

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INFORMED!

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PUBLIC
MEETINGS

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GROUP AND HOSPITAL
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WOODBIDGE • 732-636-5520



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Friday 8 am-6 pm • Saturday 8 am-Noon
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Dr. Barry Adler
Dr. Gene Fink Dr. Karen Radano
Dr. Courtney Lesnick Dr. Brian Civatte

Correction



Daniel Santo Pietro reading the poem Recife by Brazilian poet João Cabral de Melo Neto, in Portuguese as well as English. photo by Carolyn Pozycki.

Author
Gordon Bond
at the Ferry
Slip Museum

PERTH AMBOY - Author Gordon Bond will be at the Ferry Slip Museum on Sunday, January 29 at 2 p.m. giving a lecture on Thomas Mundy Peterson. “To Cast a Freedman’s Vote”: How a Handyman from Perth Amboy Made Civil Rights History. Suggested Donation \$5.

Career
Development
Boot Camp

PERTH AMBOY The Career Development Boot Camp will be held on Saturday, January 28 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., at the Donald Hilliard Jr. Affairs Complex on 205 Smith Street, Perth Amboy, NJ. Along with roundtable discussions, there will also be a Q&A panel of experts from various industries sharing their experiences and providing advice to job seekers.

Citizen’s
Campaign

NEW JERSEY - Thurs. February 9th at 6 - 6:45pm - Cut the Cost of Government & Put Money In Your Pocket! Join us for this free webinar, fusing our Citizen Legislator class with a discussion with Mark Magyar Only 25 spots available, sign up now.

Wed. February 15th, 12 p.m. to 1 pm - Democratize Your Local Party! Interested in democratizing your local political party or simply getting your foot in the door, but don’t know where to start? Whether you’re an elected party committee person or not, learn how to move your ideas forward by joining our Citizens Campaign Camden County Chair and long time party leader, Joyce Walker in a free webinar to get answers to your questions and hear how you can get moving within the political process in your town. Don’t wait, only 15 spots left! Register now.

Wed. February 22, 6:30 - 8 p.m. - Middlesex County Meet Up: Join us at this free meet up for guidance from our experts and meet other citizens from around Middlesex County who are taking a the next step and getting results.

Watch Our Blog
www.AmboyGuardianBlogspot.com

OLV Seniors
Trip to
American
Music
Theater

Featuring Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons SAYREVILLE - The OLV Seniors are sponsoring a bus trip to the American Music Theater in Lancaster, Pennsylvania to see Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. The date of the trip is Thursday, May 17, 2012. The price of the trip is \$150.00 which includes: the price of the show ticket, bus transportation, bus gratuity, dinner at Shady Maple, and snacks on the bus. The bus will leave OLV lower parking lot at 2 p.m. and return approximately at 12:30 a.m. For further information or to make a reservation, please contact Teri at (732) 727-7639.

Blood Drive
and Soda
Bread Sale

SOUTH AMBOY - The Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women in conjunction with New Jersey Blood Services will host a “Blood Drive” at the Sacred Heart school cafeteria located behind the convent on Walnut Street in South Amboy on Sunday, February 12, 2012 from 8a.m. to 1:30 p.m.. Please note: there will not be any machines for the collection of platelets, however there will be “ALYX,” an automated red blood cell collection system which allows you to donate two units of critically needed red cells in just one visit saving two lives each time. Any questions or to schedule an appointment call New Jersey Blood Services at 1-800-933-2566. The Sacred Heart Council will also be having our annual homemade “Irish Soda Bread” sale at this time. Any questions, please call Eileen at (732) 525-2696.

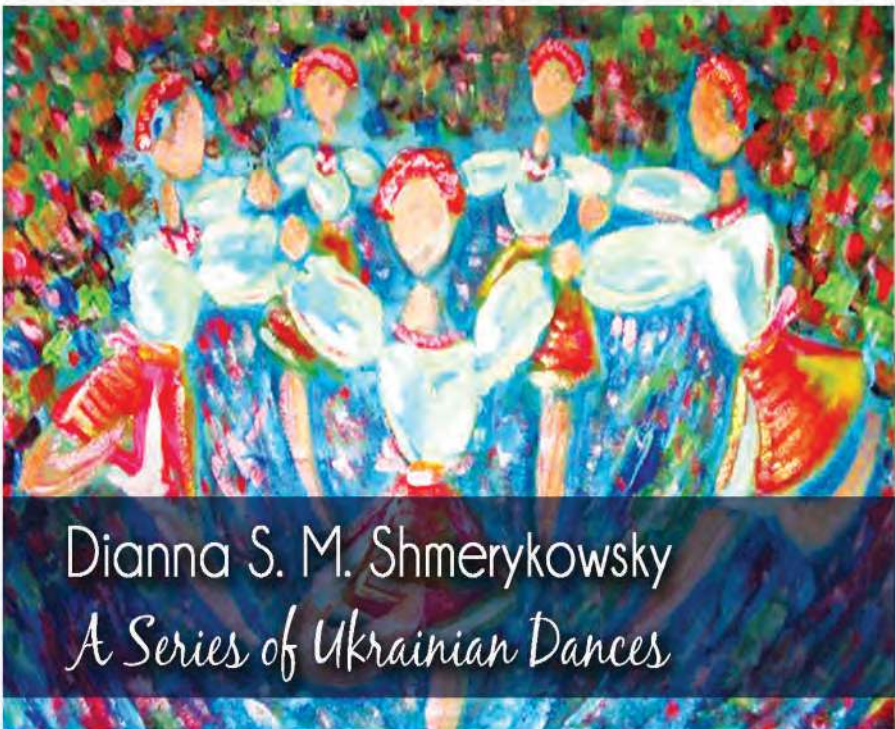
City of Perth Amboy & Mayor Wilda Diaz present:



OPPOSITE ENDS

An exhibit inspired by the music and folklore of the two opposite ends of Europe - Portugal and Ukraine. An exploration of emotion and expression evoked by poetry, dance and tradition created by two distinct artists.

JANUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 24, 2012
OPENING RECEPTION
THURS, JAN 26, 2012
6:00-8:00PM

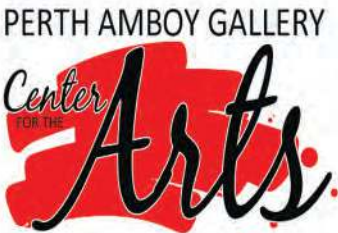


Dianna S. M. Shmerykowsky
A Series of Ukrainian Dances



Viviana Acuña-Francisco
“Saudade” and the Art of Fado

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GALLERY HOURS
Monday- Thursday
5:00-7:00pm and by appointment
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OLV Senior Group February Meeting

SAYREVILLE - The OLV Senior Group will hold their January Meeting on Friday, February 3, 2012 at 1 p.m. Monsignor Dalton Hall on Main Street in Sayreville. After a brief business meeting, Sue Ralph, from Manna House, will be our speaker.. Don't forget to wear your favorite Valentine attire. We are still collecting dues for this year. Dues for this year will be \$10.00 a person for the year – September to June. Our meeting dates are: March 2, Apr. 12, May 4, and June 1. All meetings are held on Friday afternoon at 1PM except the April meeting which will be held on Thursday, April 12. Food donations to St. Vincent de Paul are always gladly accepted.

Our group invites any senior who is 55 years and older to join our group. You do not need to be a member of OLV. Any questions please contact Teri at 732-727-7639.

South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade

SOUTH AMBOY - Mark your calendars for two upcoming South Amboy St. Patrick's Day parade fundraisers.

Tip-A-Pint afternoon at the Landmark (note new date) will be held on Sunday February 19th from 3-7PM, and Tip-A-Pint Night is happening on Thursday, March 8th at the Munck-ee Bar in South Amboy. Cost for each event is \$20 and includes food, beer, wine, soda, and a special performance from the Col. D.B. Kelly Pipes and Drums. Admission can be paid at the door, no advance sales. All proceeds go to fund the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

This year's parade steps off at 2 p.m. on Saturday March 10th with a rain date of March 24th. Along with numerous marching bands, there will be floats and thousands of marchers. As in years past, the parade promises fun and excitement for all ages, celebrating South Amboy's rich Irish heritage, and of course everyone's favorite holiday, St. Patrick's Day! If you have a group interested in being a part of this great tradition or for additional information, please visit the South Amboy St. Patrick's Day Parade website at southamboyparade.com or you can contact the parade committee chairperson, Betty Sturgis at 732-261-7350 or rbsturgis@optonline.net.

Grand Opening New Jersey Realty Advisory Group, LLC - Perth Amboy

Photos by Paul W. Wang & Carolyn Maxwell



Albert F. Chanese, MAI and Mayor Diaz prepare to cut the ribbon



City Officials and Business Owners welcome NJ Realty to Perth Amboy



Local Realtors and Business Owners welcome New Jersey Realty Advisory Group



NJ Realty Advisory Group Owners Albert & Marty Chanese, & Mike Barany, Jennifer Chanese & Susan Barany

PERTH AMBOY - New to Perth Amboy is the New Jersey Realty Advisory Group, LLC, a full service Real Estate Appraisal Company servicing central and northern New Jersey. In the real estate business for over 30 years the New Jersey Realty Advisory Group LLC performs a wide variety of services for lenders, attorneys, government agencies, corporations and private individuals.

Owner Albert F. Chanese has over 25 years experience in the appraisal field and over 35 years in real estate. Mr. Chanese holds the MAI designation from the Appraisal Institute and is a member of the International Right-of-Way Association. Albert F. Chanese has worked on redevelopment projects throughout Hudson County, Long Branch and Carteret. He has worked on Flood Control Projects in Bound Brook and along the Passaic River.

The company has worked extensively in urban areas of Northern New Jersey and has appraised all types of properties from residential homes, large industrial and office buildings, to mom and pop investment properties.

NJ TRANSIT BUS Route 815 CUT Hall Avenue and Parts of Amboy Ave.?

PERTH AMBOY - NJ Transit is at this time considering cutting all of the Hall Avenue stops made by the 815 bus, as well as various Amboy Avenue stops by the 815, in April 2012. The 815 bus would follow the Bus 62 route from where it (the 815) enters Amboy Avenue, all the way to State St. Many individuals use the 815 in order to get to Woodbridge Mall for work or shopping. The reason given is that the bus drivers are citing too much traffic due to schools in the area. If you wish to express your concern to maintain the 815 route as is, call 973-273-5555, select Customer Service and express your concern.

by Tracy Jordan

"Is Weight Loss Surgery Right For Me?"

OLD BRIDGE - Raritan Bay Medical Center is sponsoring a "Is Weight Loss Surgery Right For Me?" seminar Wednesday, January 25, 7 to 8 p.m. at its Old Bridge location. The informative event will focus on weight loss surgery including discussion on Roux-En-Y Gastric Bypass, Adjustable Gastric Banding, and Gastric Sleeve; Dr. Ayotunde Adeyeri will lead discussions on the concerns surrounding weight loss surgery as well as its successes. Family and friends are welcome. The meeting will be held in Auxiliary Hall B & C located on the lower level of the Medical Arts Building, adjacent to the hospital on Ferry Rd. between Routes 9 & 18. For more information, call 1.855.TIME.4.ME (1-855-846-3463).

Despite Warm Spells, It is Winter !

photos by Paul W. Wang



Really?

Middlesex County Vocational and Technical High Schools

Admissions Open House

Saturday, January 28, 2012

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

East Brunswick Campus
112 Rues Lane
732-254-8700 Ext. 1821

Perth Amboy Campus
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732-376-6300 Ext. 6335/6350

Piscataway Campus
21 Suttons Lane
732-985-0717 Ext. 2207/2208



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Cardiac Club

PERTH AMBOY - RBMC's Cardiac Club will meet Mon., Jan 30, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., 530 New Brunswick Ave in the hospital's Centennial Hall. Explore heart conditions and healthy living. Refreshments will be served. For more info call 1-800-362-8677..

Titanic: The Latest Chapters

SOUTH AMBOY - There will be a program on the Titanic: The Latest Chapters at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library on Monday, March 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. This interesting program will be highlighted by author Charles Haas - who will takes us aboard the lost liner to discuss the 1985 discovery to the present day. Find out about the artifacts that were recovered on recent expeditions, the identification of the unknown child, and the last survivors. April 2012 will be the 100th Anniversary of Titanic's sinking. Commemorative events are planned around the world. For more Info call 732-721-6060 comments@dowdell.org. The Dowdell Library is located adjacent to the South Amboy High School. Sponsored by the Friends of the Dowdell Library

Book Sale

PERTH AMBOY - There is an ongoing book sale at the Perth Amboy Free Public Library, 196 Jefferson St., Perth Amboy. Fill a bag for \$5. Book Dealers Welcome. For more info call 732-826-2600.

Tot Time & Storytime

SOUTH AMBOY - There will be Tot Time - (Ages 0-2) on Mondays at 11:30 a.m. and Storytime (Ages 3-5) on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. and Fridays Ages (Ages 6+) at 3:30 p.m. at the Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, 100 Harold G. Hoffman Plaza South Amboy. For more info call 732-721-6060.

Kid's Bingo

SEWAREN - The Sewaren Free Public Library welcomes kids in grades K-5 and their accompanying adults & siblings for a fun night of BINGO! This event will be on the 1st Friday of every month at 7 p.m. from October through May. The remaining dates are 2/3, 3/2, 4/6 & 5/4. Come one, come all, but sign up is required every time. For more info or to register call 732-634-7571. Sewaren Library welcomes patrons from all towns, not just Sewaren. The Sewaren Free Public Library is located at 546 West Ave., Sewaren.

Open Mic

PERTH AMBOY - There will be an Poetry and Music Open Mic Night every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Perth Amboy Gallery for the Arts, 339 Reade St., Perth Amboy. Come show off your talent. For more information contact 732-826-1690 ext. 4325.

Rolling Stones Lecture

WOODBIDGE - There will be a lecture: "On the Road and at Home with The Rolling Stones" given by author Bill German A Multimedia Lecture on The Rolling Stones' Rise to Superstardom. Q&A and exclusive book signing Wednesday Evening March 21, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Barron Art's Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. Admission Free, Reservation Required. For more info call 732-634-0143.

Medieval Castles Lecture

WOODBIDGE - There will be a lecture: "Medieval Castles of England and Wales" given by Ian C. Burrow Ph.D. RPA. An introduction to castles as represented by the many surviving examples in England and Wales. A chronological survey emphasizing changes through time, and what to look for when visiting a castle. Wednesday Evening February 29, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Barron Art's Center, 582 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. Admission Free, Reservation Required. For more info call 732-634-0143.

Senior Scene Happenings

Perth Amboy

TODAY, Jan. 25 Simpson Seniors, 10 a.m., Williamson Hall, High St.
• Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
• St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
THURS., Jan 26 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.
MON., Jan 30 St. James Golden Girls, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall, Commerce St.
TUES., Jan 31 Holy Spirit Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Church Hall, Brace Ave.
• Market Square Seniors, 1 p.m., Presbyterian Center, Market St.
WED. Feb 1 Simpson Seniors, 10 a.m., Williamson Hall, High St.
• Holy Rosary Seniors, 12:30 p.m., Auditorium, Florida Grove Rd.
• St. Stephen's Seniors, 1 p.m., Cafeteria, State St.
• Holy Trinity Seniors, 1 p.m., Church Hall, Lawrie & Johnstone Sts.
THURS., Feb 2 The Cathedral International Seniors, 9:30 a.m., Family Life Center, Madison Ave.

South Amboy

TODAY, Jan 25 South Amboy Seniors, noon, YMCA building, John T. O'Leary Boulevard.
MON., Jan 30 St. Mary's Seniors, noon, Senior Resource Center, S. Stevens Ave.

SEND US YOUR CLUB NEWS

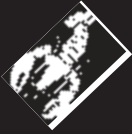


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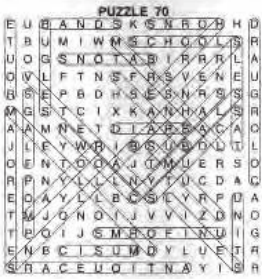
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.thebarge.com

LOOKING BACK



PERTH AMBOY - Circa Early 1900's. Many residents thought of the Bluff as the Residential Streets of choice where expensive Victorian homes lined both sides of the street. As seen in this photo many residents of the Bluff had private beaches. Many influential families had homes along the Bluff. Little has changed except now there are 2 apartment complexes. Photo Courtesy of Dr. Ryan Varga

Answers From Puzzle On Page 11



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732-896-4446

A.A.R.P.
Meeting

SAYREVILLE - The Sayreville Chapter #4853 of A.A.R.P. Meetings are held at the Sayreville Senior Center (Main St.) on the 3rd Thursday of each month starting at 12 NOON. There are different informative speakers at each meeting. Food and coffee are offered at reasonable prices. Membership is \$5 per year. New members are welcomed at every meeting. Come and make some new friends.

Songwriting
Class

WOODBIDGE - There will be a songwriting class in the Barron Art's Center, Rahway Ave., Woodbridge taught by Veteran Music Instructor and Recording Artist Jeff Saxon. The Class starts on Saturday, March 10 and will run for 6 consecutive Saturday afternoons. The class is appropriate for songwriters of all levels as well as those who simply are curious how songs are written. Saxon has taught songwriting classes at music schools, colleges and universities from coast to coast. His video of his latest single, "High Time for a Hero" is a finalist in the 2012 NJ Film Festival for best music video. Class cost is \$120 which includes a 35 page songwriting booklet written by the instructor. For more info and the class registration form email Mr. Saxon at info@jeff-saxonmusic.com or call the Barron Arts Center at 732-634-0413. or email BarronArts@twp.woodbridge.nj.us

Veteran's
Memorial
Application

PERTH AMBOY - "HONORING YESTERDAY'S AND TODAY'S VETERANS WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY." Any eligible veteran honoree that is not included on the memorial on Sadowski Parkway at this time, may request to have their name placed on the memorial by filling out the form available at City Hall or can be downloaded on the City of Perth Amboy's Website and submitting it to the City Clerk's office along with a copy of Form DD214. SUBMISSION DEADLINE OF ELIGIBLE VETERAN is MARCH 31, 2012. For more information call 732-826-0290.

Veteran
Employment
Services

MILLTOWN - The Jewish Family and Vocational Service Of Middlesex County is offering Veteran Employment Services. Qualifications - You must be a Military Veteran between the ages of 18 to 64 and a Resident of Central NJ and have Documentation of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) (Defined as an injury to the brain, caused by external physical force such as a fall, physical violence, car accident or sports injury). For more info call Phone: 732-777-1940 or Fax: 732-777-1889 Email: office@jfv.org. The Jewish Family and Vocational Service Of Middlesex County, 32 Ford Avenue, Second Floor, Milltown, New Jersey 08850 or go to WWW.JFVS.ORG. This program is funded by a grant from the Kessler foundation

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A Petition to
St. Joseph

Dear St. Joseph, head of the most perfect household, foster father of Jesus and guardian of His mother Mary, I confidently place myself and all my concerns under your care and protection. I ask that, through your powerful intercession with God, you obtain for me all the help and graces that I need for my spiritual and temporal welfare and in particular, the special favor I now ask there mention or think of your home sale or any other petition, especially family needs. Good St. Joseph, I know with confidence, that your prayers on my behalf will be heard by God and that He will grant my request, if it be for His glory and my greater good. Thank you St. Joseph, for having responded to my call. Amen. *G.T.A.*

Prayer To St. Claire

Prayer To Blessed Mother

Prayer To Blessed Virgin

St. Jude Novena

Cost \$10.
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For Employment

Prayer To Holy Spirit

Thanksgiving Novena

Pray The Rosary

A Petition to
St. Jude

May the sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of Miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised.
*Thank you, St. Jude
F.M.J.*

Prayer To St. Jude

Novena To St. Anthony

Novena To St. Joseph

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\$50 Ivory Runner with
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16. HORSE

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19. MARSHAL

20. MAYOR

21. MUSIC

22. POMP

23. ROUTE

24. SCHOOLS

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(18-24) For bathroom \$35
732-324-2791.

Pedestal Stand - Beige
Sink - 6 mo. - New \$75 -
732-324-2791

Small girl's dresser.
16"x14" 29 inches high.
White-ish \$15 L. Harbor -
732-997-9077

7 Ft. Christmas Tree - \$37
- 732-316-5092

Porcelain Dolls - Collectables - boxes - certificates
2 at \$35 each. 732-855-6898

Oster Juice Extractor -
Perfect Condition \$20
732-826-6359

Air Conditioner 5,000
BTU \$40 - Excellent Running Condition - Sayreville -732-254-1329

Love Seat - reclining
small blue print - \$65.
Please Call 732-254-5640

Deluxe Walker with Seat
- \$45 Bedrail - \$45 Please
Call 732-727-1639

Playboy Magazines -
complete years - 12 issues - Mint Condition \$10
- 732-727-8417

Chandelier - Bronze Patina with 15 Crystals - \$75
Excellent - 732-238-8439



ENRIQUE HERNANDEZ
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FORDS - Great starter home close to shopping district and all major highways. Needs some TLC. Buyer is resp. for C/O, termite cert. and all repairs. **\$149,900**

**TOO NEW
FOR PHOTO**

CARTERT - Amazing unit 2 bdrms, 1.5 bath mint condition - a must see. Buyer is resp. for C/O, termite cert. and all repairs as well as all due diligence. Note \$45 maint. does not include Homeowner Ins. **\$164,900**



PERTH AMBOY - House in good condition. **\$495,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Perfect for a large family with big rooms within walking distance to waterfront, private patio and alley way. Come and see this immaculate luxurious comfort. **\$289,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Very good two family, close to parks and public transportation. It is being sold strictly in "as is" condition. Buyer is resp. for C/O, Termite Cert. and all repairs. **\$159,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Great investment, all apartments in excellent condition. **\$279,000**



OLD BRIDGE - Dead ends street. Quiet and friendly neighborhood. Items included China Cabinet, Ceiling Fan, Washer & Dryer. JUST REDUCED \$20,000. **\$225,000**



PERTH AMBOY - Very nice house with a lot of pine wall, cedar closet, good sized rooms, high ceiling basement. This is the house to live comfortable. DO NOT MISS IT! Roof only 3 yrs old. Sold "as is". Bring Offers. **\$164,900**



PERTH AMBOY - Buyer resp. for all inspection and C/O. Being sold in "as is" condition. **\$149,900**